



Complete Summary

TITLE

Learning disabilities: the practice can produce a register or patients aged 18 and over with learning disabilities.

SOURCE(S)

British Medical Association (BMA) and NHS Employers. Quality and outcomes framework guidance for GMS contract 2009/10. London (UK): British Medical Association, National Health Service Confederation; 2009 Mar. 162 p.

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Structure

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess whether the practice can produce a register of patients aged 18 and over with learning disabilities.

RATIONALE

People with learning disabilities are amongst the most vulnerable and socially excluded in our society. It is estimated that there are approximately 20/1,000 people with mild learning disabilities and 3-4/1,000 people with severe and profound learning disabilities in the United Kingdom (UK). Over the past three decades, almost all the long stay NHS beds for people with learning disabilities have closed, and virtually all patients with learning disabilities are now living in the community and depend on general practitioners (GPs) for their primary health care needs.

The idea of a learning disability register for adults in primary care has been widely recommended by professionals and charities alike (see Treat Me Right, Mencap 2004).

Learning disability is defined in Valuing People (and 'The Same as You') as the presence of:

- A significantly reduced ability to understand new or complex information; to learn new skills (impaired intelligence) with:
 - A reduced ability to cope independently (impaired social functioning)
 - Which started before adulthood (18 years), with a lasting effect on development

The definition encompasses people with a broad range of disabilities. It includes adults with autism who also have learning disabilities, but not people with a higher level autistic spectrum disorder who may be of average or above average intelligence. The presence of an Intelligence Quotient below 70, should not, in isolation, be used in deciding whether someone has a learning disability.

The definition does not include all those people who have a "learning difficulty", i.e., specific difficulties with learning, such as dyslexia.

For many people, there is little difficulty in reaching a decision whether they have a learning disability or not. However, in those individuals where there is some doubt about the diagnosis and the level of learning disability, referral to a multidisciplinary specialist learning disability team may be necessary to assess the degree of disability and diagnose any underlying condition. Locality Community Learning Disability Teams, working along with Primary Care Organisations, have provided expertise and data about and for people with learning disabilities. Practices should liaise with Social Services Departments, Community Learning Disability Teams and Primary Healthcare Facilitators where employed by PCTs to assist in the construction of a primary care database (see Martin and Martin, Journal of Learning Disabilities 2000).

The creation of a full register of patients aged 18 years and over with learning disabilities will provide primary care practitioners with the first important building block in providing better quality and more appropriate services for this patient population.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Learning disabilities; patient registry

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

This measure applies to practices whose patient population includes individuals with learning disabilities (one practice at a time).

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

The practice can produce a register of patients age 18 years and older with learning disabilities

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence
- A formal consensus procedure involving experts in relevant clinical, methodological, and organizational sciences
- One or more research studies published in a National Library of Medicine (NLM) indexed, peer-reviewed journal

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Unspecified

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Current routine use

CURRENT USE

Internal quality improvement
National reporting
Pay-for-performance

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Physician Group Practices/Clinics

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Physicians

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Group Clinical Practices

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Does not apply to this measure

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Does not apply to this measure

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Does not apply to this measure

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

See the "Rationale" field.

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

See the "Rationale" field.

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

Unspecified

UTILIZATION

Unspecified

COSTS

Unspecified

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Not within an IOM Care Need

IOM DOMAIN

Not within an IOM Domain

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Does not apply to this measure

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Does not apply to this measure

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS**Inclusions**

This measure applies to practices whose patient population includes individuals with learning disabilities (one practice at a time).

Exclusions

Unspecified

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

Does not apply to this measure

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Does not apply to this measure

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Does not apply to this measure

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS**Inclusions**

The practice can produce a register of patients age 18 years and older with learning disabilities

Exclusions

Unspecified

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Encounter or point in time

DATA SOURCE

Registry data

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Does not apply to this measure

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

Unspecified

Computation of the Measure

SCORING

Categorical Variable

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Passing score defines better quality

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Does not apply to this measure

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

External comparison at a point in time
Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Unspecified

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

LD 1. The practice can produce a register of patients aged 18 and over with learning disabilities.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[Quality and Outcomes Framework Indicators](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[Learning Disabilities](#)

DEVELOPER

British Medical Association
National Health Service (NHS) Confederation

FUNDING SOURCE(S)

The expert panel who developed the indicators were funded by the English Department of Health.

COMPOSITION OF THE GROUP THAT DEVELOPED THE MEASURE

The main indicator development group is based in the National Primary Care Research and Development Centre in the University of Manchester. They are: Professor Helen Lester, NPCRDC, MB, BCH, MD; Dr. Stephen Campbell, NPCRDC, PhD; Dr. Umesh Chauhan, NPCRDC, MB, BS, PhD.

Others involved in the development of individual indicators are: Professor Richard Hobbs, Dr. Richard McManus, Professor Jonathan Mant, Dr. Graham Martin, Professor Richard Baker, Dr. Keri Thomas, Professor Tony Kendrick, Professor Brendan Delaney, Professor Simon De Lusignan, Dr. Jonathan Graffy, Dr. Henry Smithson, Professor Sue Wilson, Professor Claire Goodman, Dr. Terry O'Neill, Dr. Philippa Matthews, Dr. Simon Griffin, Professor Eileen Kaner.

FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES/OTHER POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

None for the main indicator development group.

ENDORSER

National Health Service (NHS)

ADAPTATION

Measure was not adapted from another source.

RELEASE DATE

2006 Feb

REVISION DATE

2009 Mar

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

This measure updates a previous version: British Medical Association (BMA), and NHS Employers. Quality and outcomes framework guidance for GMS contract 2008/09. London (UK): British Medical Association, National Health Service Confederation; 2008 Apr. 148 p.

SOURCE(S)

British Medical Association (BMA) and NHS Employers. Quality and outcomes framework guidance for GMS contract 2009/10. London (UK): British Medical Association, National Health Service Confederation; 2009 Mar. 162 p.

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "LD 1. The Practice Can Produce a Register of Patients Aged 18 and Over with Learning Disabilities," is published in the "Quality and Outcomes Framework Guidance." This document is available from the [British Medical Association Web site](#).

NQMC STATUS

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